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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois Senate are saddened to learn of the death of John Joseph Shay of McHenry, who passed away on January 8, 2014; and

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WHEREAS, John Shay was born on March 21, 1930 in Chicago to Harry and Margurite (nee Murphy) Shay; he attended Saint Philip Basilica High School in Chicago, Servite High School in Chicago, and the Novitiate at Mt. St. Philip in Granville, Wisconsin; he married Alyce Joyce Bykowski on October 4, 1958; and

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WHEREAS, John Shay graduated from Worsham College of Mortuary Science in Chicago in 1956 and became a licensed Illinois funeral director; he began working for George R. Justen & Son Funeral Home (now Justen Funeral Home & Crematory) in McHenry, where he also operated the ambulance service; he and his wife, opened Shay Music World on Green Street in 1960; he was also the director of the McHenry County Emergency Services and Disaster Agency from 1969 until his retirement in 1994, and had previously served as the civil defense director for McHenry; he was a long-time member of Company One of the McHenry Township Fire Protection District, where he served as secretary for many years; he was one of the founders and first commander of the Chain-O-Lakes Water Patrol, serving as a

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1 McHenry County Deputy Sheriff; and

2 WHEREAS, John Shay helped contribute a great deal to the  
3 safety and security of his community; he developed the mass  
4 casualty plan later adopted by the Federal Emergency Management  
5 Agency as its prototype and worked with police agencies in the  
6 county to establish an organized response when a town is  
7 over-taxed by an incident; he produced a cable television show  
8 for 13 years called "Your Chance to Live" and was instrumental  
9 in establishing the Emergency Telephone System Board; he served  
10 as treasurer of the Illinois Emergency Number Association,  
11 past-President of the Illinois Emergency Services Management  
12 Association, and treasurer of the National Coordinating  
13 Council on Emergency Management, which honored him as  
14 outstanding local emergency manager in the United States; he  
15 was also past-President of the American Society of Professional  
16 Emergency Planners and active in the McHenry County Fire Chiefs  
17 Association, where he helped support and establish the MABAS  
18 system; he was a member of the Illinois Fire Chiefs Association  
19 and in 2008, the International Association of Fire Chiefs  
20 awarded him a lifetime membership; he served on the board that  
21 advised FEMA on integrated emergency management; in 1995, he  
22 was honored by the City of McHenry by being named the McHenry  
23 Fiesta Days parade marshal; and

24 WHEREAS, John Shay was a member of The Church of Holy

1 Apostles in McHenry, where he served as President of the  
2 Pastoral Council, Director of Administrative Services,  
3 extraordinary minister of the Eucharist, funeral coordinator,  
4 and was instrumental in the motivation and establishment of the  
5 first 24/7 Adoration Chapel in McHenry County; he was a member  
6 of the Knights of Columbus Council #128, where he was a 4th  
7 degree knight; and

8 WHEREAS, John Shay was preceded in death by his parents,  
9 and by his sister, Maureen Delaney; and

10 WHEREAS, John Shay is survived by his wife of 55 years,  
11 Alyce; his sons, Kevin Shay and Darren (Debby) Shay; his  
12 grandchildren, Ryan (Kristina) Shay and Scott (Terri Butko)  
13 Shay; and his niece, Peggy Grandahl; therefore, be it

14 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL  
15 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we mourn the passing of  
16 John Joseph Shay, and extend our sincere condolences to his  
17 family, friends, and all who knew and loved him; and be it  
18 further

19 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
20 presented to the family of John Shay as an expression of our  
21 deepest sympathy.